

From: Art Holland
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 4:06pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Suite 1200
Antitrust Division, Department of Justice
601 D Street NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

Microsoft was the first to exploit if not realize that the PC business was like any other modern business that depends on interoperability - he who can establish and control the standards will become a very profitable monopoly. Just like roads, telephones and many others - the business of computers is about having them interoperate - whether on networks or through packaged software.

Microsoft has gained this leverage through control of the API's and file formats combined with some very unsavory business tactics. The result is that people need Windows and they need Office. To choose anything else is to make significant compromises in one's ability to interact with others.

MS has exploited this, protected it and been convicted of illegally maintaining it and lost on appeal.

This monopoly is stifling progress. Why would investors attack a monopoly? It's financial suicide.

Remedy:

- Fine them billions for breaking the law
- Openly publish API's and file formats subject to the satisfaction of an independent board.
- Make available a version of Windows that contains no applications (the things people actually buy computers for) at 1/2 the price of any other version.

Thanks.

Sincerely,

Art Holland